

# W·I·N·G·S·P·A·N

VOLUME 3 NO. 1

MARCH 1994

Karen Steenhof, Editor

Carolyn Fritschle, Editorial Assistant

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear RRF Members:

Following the annual meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina last November I became President of the Raptor Research Foundation. Like many of you, I have been a long-time member of RRF and feel very strongly about its mission. I also am sure that many of us have thoughts about how our organization might be improved. During the next two years I hope to work with the membership and the Board to strengthen RRF, and help it to become even more effective as a research, education, and conservation organization.

As you know, the Raptor Research Foundation has gone through many changes in recent years. Through the leadership of excellent editors and an increased commitment on the part of contributing members, the quality of the Journal of Raptor Research has been steadily improving for several years. In addition, the establishment of The Wingspan in 1992 created a new communication vehicle through which our members could share ideas, announce meetings and positions, profile organizations, and describe accomplishments. Recently, the Bylaws were changed so that the general membership could elect their President and Vice President, as well as the Board of Directors. Today, membership in RRF is over 1200 and fairly stable. In recent years, however, there has been a change in the demographics of our membership; a growing proportion of our members now come from countries in Europe, Asia, Central and South America, and the Pacific Rim. In response, RRF held its first European meeting in 1993, which was very successful, and future meetings outside North America are being discussed.

As President, my initial goals are to find ways to streamline and enhance RRF's current abilities to fulfill its mission. For example, I will be recommending a revision to our committee structure through combining, creating, or eliminating committees where appropriate. I believe strong, dynamic committees are essential if RRF is to be a leading international raptor research, education, and conservation organization. Active participation by many more of the members will be needed to accomplish this. Second, as a former Board member I often was confused by the process we used to approve RRF budgets at our annual meetings in the fall, when our fiscal year began the previous July. I would like to see RRF shift its fiscal year to match the calendar year so we can approve budgets in advance, not a quarter into the year. Aside from the obvious, this change may provide us with some additional fiscal flexibility to respond to initiatives that arise at the annual meetings. Finally, given the shifting composition of RRF members from different countries throughout the world, I think we need to explore ways to insure appropriate geographical representation on the Board of Directors, without having to change the Bylaws if major shifts in demographics occur. A policy to elect At-Large Directors from geographic regions in proportion to current membership patterns might be an appropriate way of insuring fair representation for members that live outside the U.S.

There are numerous other issues and projects that could be mentioned, but the principal message I would like to convey is that I believe RRF is a dynamic organization that does a tremendous amount of good on behalf of raptors, but we could do better! I encourage you to get more involved and volunteer to help. If you have an issue you believe RRF should address, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the Board members. I look forward to being your President during 1994-95, and seeing you next fall in Flagstaff. - Mike Collopy



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U.S.  
NATIONAL  
BIOLOGICAL  
SURVEY

## **- 1994 RRF MEETING SET FOR FLAGSTAFF -**

The 1994 Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation will be held November 2-6 in Flagstaff, Arizona. In addition to general papers on raptor ecology, the Flagstaff meeting will feature 3 symposia and a half-day workshop on the use of the RANGES software package. Susi MacVean (602-789-3581) will chair a symposium on the Northern Goshawk, Dr. Joe Ganey (602-556-2156) will convene a symposium on the Mexican Spotted Owl, and Dr. Michael Fry (916-752-1201) will lead a symposium on Swainson's Hawks.

Four field trips are now being planned. A trip to the Grand Canyon will include discussions about the reintroduction of the California Condor and a visit to a migration monitoring site. A trip to the Coconino National Forest will highlight strategies to manage Mexican Spotted Owls and Northern Goshawks in the southwest. The red rocks, Oak Creek Canyon, and the raptor rehabilitation center will be included in a trip to Sedona, and the cultural history of Northern Arizona will be the focus of a trip to Wupatki and Walnut Canyon National Monuments and the Museum of Northern Arizona.

A call for papers will be distributed later this year. Persons interested in presenting general papers, posters, films, or videos should submit abstracts and applications by 15 August according to the guidelines in the call for papers. Any resolutions that you wish to be considered should be sent to Dave Garcelon, P.O. Box 127, Arcata, California 95521 no later than 15 July 1994.

Accommodations have been arranged at the Little America Hotel in Flagstaff. Room rates will be \$65 per night plus tax. Flagstaff is located in northern Arizona, approximately 3 hours from Phoenix. It can be reached by Interstates 17, 89, and 40. Flagstaff is served by a limited number of prop planes operated by America West and Delta. Bus service is also available from the Phoenix airport terminal to Flagstaff. For travel information or hotel reservations, call Campus Travel Connection (1-800-82-TRAVL). Campus Travel Connection will also provide a roommate matching service upon request.

For more information about the meeting contact Patricia Hall, Local Committee Chairperson, 436 E. David Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 (602-774-0041).

### **THE RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.** (FOUNDED 1966)

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VICE-PRESIDENT: David M. Bird

SECRETARY: Betsy Hancock  
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The *Wingspan* is distributed twice a year to all RRF members. It is also available to non-members for a subscription rate of \$10 per year. *The Journal of Raptor Research* (ISSN 0892-1016) is published quarterly and available to individuals for \$24.00 per year and to libraries and institutions for \$30.00 per year from *The Raptor Research Foundation, Inc.*, 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, Minnesota 55033, U.S.A. Add \$3 for destinations outside of the continental United States.

Persons interested in predatory birds are invited to join The Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. Send requests for information concerning membership, subscriptions, special publications, or change of address to *Jim Fitzpatrick, Treasurer, 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, Minnesota 55033, U.S.A.*



## ARE SHRIKES AND RAVENS RAPTORS?

### ▣ MORE OPINIONS ▣

#### Reply to Ms. Kathleen A. Engel:

Grouping as raptors hawks and owls, which are only distantly related, and including vultures, which are hardly "raptorial" in habits, and may also (American vultures) be only distantly related, represent arbitrary actions. Thus one might proceed in the same fashion and include shrikes, "ravens", and others. I think this would be unwise; where does one draw the line? The jaegers and skuas (*Stercorariidae*) are more like raptors, perhaps, than either shrikes or ravens. During the breeding season, at least, they feed extensively on small mammals, songbirds and shorebirds; the latter captured in flight. Their claws are somewhat talon-like and the bill hooked. At least at some times or in some species, the following groups among others, behave like raptors: ground hornbills (*Bucorvus*); toucans (*Ramphastidae*); Australian butcher-birds and "magpies" (*Cracticidae*) and others.

Thus in principle I think the group raptors should be left as is; in practice, if one is discussing raptorial aspects of ravens, skuas or whatever, I see no reason why it should not be done at our meetings or in our journal. White and Cade (1971 *Living Bird*, 10:107-150) combined the two aspects in an important paper on "Cliff-nesting raptors and ravens "... (in northern Alaska). - D. Amadon

#### **If Ravens are Raptors, what about Herons, Storks, Gulls, Loons, Mergansers, Frogmouths, Hornbills, Shoebills, Etc., Etc.?**

I strongly disagree with the recent plea for including the raven as a raptor. If we make an exception for the raven, what about all the other groups of birds that also prey on small vertebrates. How does the raven qualify more as a raptor than a heron, stork, gull, or frogmouth? Simple fact of the matter is, that it doesn't! They all eat vertebrates. If a raven is to be considered a raptor, what makes a loon or merganser a less qualified raptor than an Osprey or a Bald Eagle? Technically speaking, most of the birds of the world are birds-of-prey if we include insects as prey (which are often the dominant prey item for Kestrels, Screech Owls, Burrowing Owls, Flammulated Owls, etc.). Before long, these definitions can reach absurdity if we don't keep things simple and just leave it at "hawks and owls."

Traditionally, the raptor is defined as a bird belonging to Falconiform or Strigiform Orders, possessing talons and a hooked bill, which aid in capturing prey, usually by striking with force. According to Webster's Dictionary, the root word "rapt" means to lift up and carry away - one feature that usually sets traditional raptors apart from other predacious birds. In Europe, even owls are not included under the raptor category, as Ian Newton and other European naturalists often refer to birds-of-prey as "raptors and owls." Maybe we should be more worried about getting the Europeans to include owls first! -Thomas Bosakowski

# MEETING

## FIRST EUROPEAN MEETING CANTERBURY, ENGLAND



The Raptor Research Foundation (RRF) held its first European meeting at the University of Kent in historic Canterbury, England from 11 through 15 September 1993. The conference was conducted jointly with The Hawk and Owl Trust and was capably organized by Roger Clark, Mike Nicholls, Robert Kenward, and Sue Dewar. The meeting hosted 130 participants from 18 nations; about 80% had not previously attended an RRF conference.

The meeting's comprehensive program involved 5 days and included 5 general paper sessions, a poster session, and 3 symposia. The general paper sessions consisted of some 30 papers that addressed topics on ecology, physiology, health and disease, and taxonomy and evolution; 17 papers were displayed at the poster session. The symposia on ecology and conservation of harriers, nest box use, and solving raptor-human conflicts included nearly 40 invited papers. The proceedings of the harrier symposium will be published by The Hawk and Owl Trust. A draft RRF position statement on solving raptor-human conflicts was developed at the raptor-human conflicts symposium and presented at the RRF meeting in Charlotte in November. Expanded abstracts of the symposium and the position statement will be published in the *Journal of Raptor Research*. Two half day field trips rounded out an invigorating program. Conference attendees had their choice of either visiting the home of Charles

Darwin or viewing raptors and other wildlife at 2 local nature reserves. A delightful banquet, which featured a film on "Symbiosis between Eastern Screech-Owls and Blind Snakes" by Fred Gehlbach topped off the conference. Offers to host the next Eurasian conference have been received from Minsk (Belarus), Extremada (Spain), and Eilat (Israel).

A lively discussion was held at an open evening meeting to discuss the possibility for the major raptor groups throughout the world to develop a worldwide Conservation Action Plan for Birds of Prey and Owls. BirdLife International, who initiated the meeting, felt that the well-established raptor groups, many of them represented at the Canterbury meeting, could develop a Conservation Action Plan. They felt that agreement among the organizations on any document produced was necessary for the concept of an action plan to be successful. Some participants questioned the value of an action plan because of the dearth of information for many species. Others expressed concern that certain entities might use the action plan incorrectly. However, the groups agreed in principle to work toward a Conservation Action Plan for Birds of Prey and Owls. After considerable discussion it was decided that all groups wishing to participate would sign a memorandum of understanding, which, while not binding, would portray an atmosphere of intent to achieve specific goals. Representatives of the major raptor organizations decided to meet again and discuss this matter further at the RRF meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina in November. Attendees felt it was a historical occasion to assemble varied groups and to have them agree on a common goal. -- Mike Kochert

# HIGHLIGHTS

## 1993 ANNUAL MEETING CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

More than 200 people attended the 1993 Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. in Charlotte, North Carolina on 3-7 November 1993. The Local Arrangements Committee, consisting of the Carolina Raptor Center and chaired by Robert Gafaell, organized an excellent meeting and even arranged for some beautiful fall colors. The meeting was highlighted by a tour of the Carolina Raptor Center's education and rehabilitation facility and an enlightening reception at the Discovery Place that included an exciting OMNIMAX film on Antarctica.

Keith Bildstein and Laurie Goodrich, Scientific Program chairs, assembled a stimulating and varied array of papers for the general scientific program, which consisted of more than 60 papers presented at concurrent sessions on conservation biology; management; breeding biology; migration; telemetry; foraging ecology; genetics and morphology; and systematics, physiology, and rehabilitation. In addition to the general papers sessions, the meeting hosted an outstanding poster session as well as a video session viewed by a standing room only crowd. A symposium on adaptations to human-altered environments arranged by David Bird and co-convened by Dan Varland topped off a superb scientific program. The business meeting consisted of lively discussion on the draft RRF position statement on solving raptor human conflicts developed at the symposium on Raptor-Human Conflicts held at the September 1993 European RRF meeting in Canterbury, England.

The conference ended with a delightful banquet on Saturday night. Outgoing president Dick Clark bid his farewell, and president-elect Mike Collopy took over the helm. Dick also received an exquisite

painting from the RRF as a token of appreciation for his devoted service as President. Ian Newton received the prestigious RRF's President's Award for his lifelong contributions to research and conservation of raptors.



The recipients of the following awards were also announced: the Tom Cade Award to Jim Enderson for his work on captive propagation and reintroduction of raptors; the Dean Amadon Award to Richard Holdaway for his work on systematics and paleobiology of the Haast's Eagle; the William C. Andersen Memorial Award to Heather V. Cunningham for her paper on in-breeding, linkage, and genetic drift in captive American Kestrels, Fritz Hertel for his paper on ecomorphological feeding diversity in past and present vulture guilds, and Aradit Castellanos for the poster paper on the Peregrine Falcon on a western coastal lagoon at Baja California Sur Mexico; the Steven R. Tulley Memorial Grant and the Koplin Travel Award to Elise Vernon Schmidt for her study on morphological variation in migratory Red-tailed Hawks; and the Leslie Brown Memorial Grant to Suanne Unger for her educational efforts to protect the Cape Vulture.

Newly elected Directors of RRF; Jemima Parry-Jones, Brian Millsap, Jim Bednarz, Keith Bildstien; were announced at the meeting. Fabian Jakšić, Mike Collopy, Jeff Lincer, and Gary Duke ended their terms as directors. -- Mike Kochert



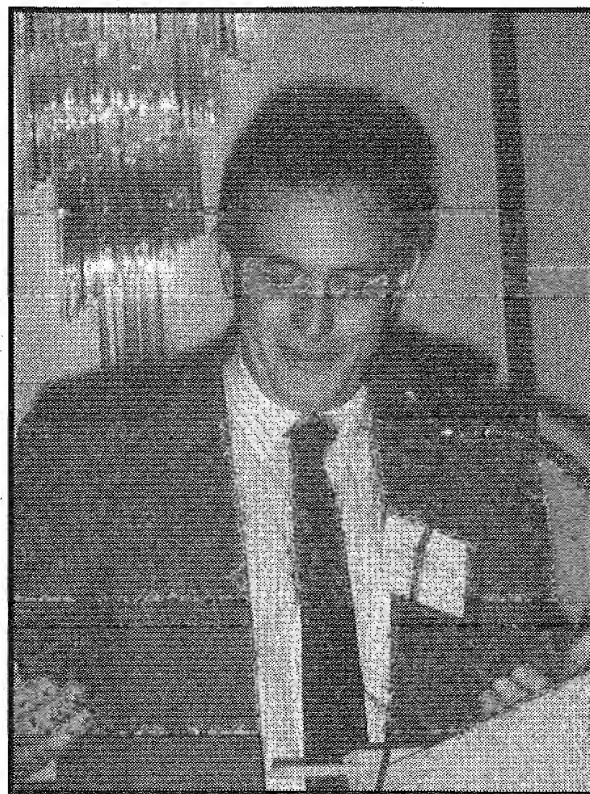
# IAN NEWTON

## RECIPIENT OF THE 1993 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Dr. Ian Newton was awarded the 1993 Raptor Research Foundation President's Award at the Annual Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina on 6 November 1993. The award recognizes Newton's long-term commitment to raptor conservation.

Ian Newton is a true renaissance man. He did his doctoral research on Bullfinches at the Edward Grey Institute of Oxford University, which was then headed by David Lack. While studying geese in North America, he authored a very successful book on the ecology of finches.

He has become most well-known among us for his work with raptors. His initial studies, in the 1970's, concentrated on the impact of pesticides on raptors. His main study species has been the Sparrowhawk, but he has also contributed a number of papers on Peregrines, Merlins, kites, and other raptor species. He has published numerous articles in major scientific journals, particularly long-term studies on reproductive success, and two very important monographs in the well-known Poyser Series. His first book, *The Population Ecology of Raptors*, appeared in 1979, and his second, *The Sparrowhawk*, was published in 1986. His insightful leadership and influence in the field of raptor ecology is known worldwide.



Dr. Newton has worked for 20 years in the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, moving in the early 1980's from Edinburgh to Monks Wood in East Anglia. He has attended and participated in many meetings of the Raptor Research Foundation, and has served as President of the British Ecological Society. Earlier this year, he was elected to Fellowship of the Royal Society, a rare honor for an ornithologist, for his continuing high standard of research.

His early work on Bullfinch damage to buds on fruit trees led to a passion for fruit trees. He and his wife, Helena, have a small commercial orchard at their home. They market the apples that their orchard produces under the name--what else but "Newton's Apples."

## PROJECT INTERNATIONAL COLLEAGUE

In 1987, the Raptor Research Foundation initiated Project International Colleague (PIC) in an effort to make it easier for international colleagues to join RRF.

Goals of the program are to increase international membership in RRF, to enable the financially fortunate to assist the less fortunate, and to overcome the problem of converting international currencies to U.S.\$ (The cost of converting currency sometimes amounts to more than the cost of dues; mastercard and visa cards help but are not available to everyone).

Under the program, RRF members from North America pay the dues (\$27.00 US) for 1 or more biologists from outside the U.S.A. Sponsors can designate a specific individual they want to support or they can specify the country or part of the world from which they want their sponsoree. Individuals from outside the U.S.A. who would like to be sponsored should contact Jim Fitzpatrick, RRF Treasurer, 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, Minnesota 55033, U.S.A. Jim takes responsibility for matching sponsors and those desiring sponsorship. He also tracks PIC renewals. Multiple-year PIC memberships also are now available.

Currently, there are 46 international memberships sponsored by the PIC program. They include colleagues from the following countries: Argentina (4), Australia (2), Belarus (1), Brazil (4), Bulgaria (1), Canada (2), Chile (3), Colombia (1), Cuba (1), Czechoslovakia (3), Ecuador (1), Germany (1), Mexico (11), Panama (1), Philippines (2), Republic of Russia (6), South Africa (1) and Zimbabwe (1).

The RRF officers are now making plans to expand the PIC program so as to make raptor

literature more available in other countries. The Board of Directors will soon consider a program whereby sponsors can support subscription memberships to established libraries in countries outside the U.S.A. and Canada. A library package that would include a complete set of past RRF publications and a multiple-year membership would probably cost about \$700. RRF officers and directors would like to hear from members about whether they think such a program would be viable. Potential sponsors and interested, established libraries should send letters of interest to Dr. Richard Clark (Dept. of Biology, York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA 17405-7199 U.S.A.) or Dr. Fabian M. Jaksic (Departamento de Ecologia, Universidad Catolica de Chile, Casilla 114-D Santiago, Chile).

Thank you to all the current sponsors of PIC memberships including: Paul Baker (1), Marilyn Bicking (1), Carl Bolon (1), Jeff Brown (1), Susan Chaplin (1), Bill Clark (1), Richard Clark (1), Michael Collopy (1), Randall Craft (1), Roberta Dent (1), Phillip Detrich (5), Charles Duncan (1), Gary Duke (1), Jim Fraser (1), Marjorie Gibson (1), Pat Hall (1), George Halmanza (1), Frances Hamerstrom (1), Alana Harmata (1), Robert Kenward (1), Jack Kirkley (2), Wojciech Krol (1), Thomas Laura (1), Jeffrey Lincer (1), Steve McBride (1), Riley McClelland (1), Mike McGrady (2), E. Stuart Mitchell (1), Joel Pagel (1), Nancy Read (1), Gary Ritchison (1), Phil Schempff (2), Joe Schmutz (2), Sara Spofford (1), Richard Thorsell (1), Steve Whitney (1), and Leonard Young (1). To become a sponsor, contact Treasurer Jim Fitzpatrick, 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, MN 55033, USA.



## UPCOMING MEETINGS, SEMINARS, & WORKSHOPS

1994

### MARCH 19

NORTHEAST HAWKWATCH RAPTOR  
MIGRATION CONFERENCE

**Northampton, Massachusetts**

*Contact: Else M. Greenstone, 10 Moss  
Lane, Cranford, New Jersey 07016*

### MARCH 18 - 23

59TH NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
CONFERENCE

**Anchorage, Alaska**

*Contact: Wildlife Management Institute,  
1101 14th St. NW, Suite 801, Washington,  
DC 20005*

### JUNE 21 - 26

THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS'  
UNION, THE COOPER  
ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, and THE  
WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
1994 ANNUAL MEETINGS, HELD  
JOINTLY

**Missoula, Montana**

*Contact: Dr. James Kushlan, Program  
Coordinator, Dept. of Biology,  
Univ. of Mississippi,  
University, MS 38677*

### JULY 24 -30

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY  
**Seattle, Washington**

*Contact: James C. Ha, Regional Primate  
Research Ctr., Univ. of Washington, 1-421  
Health Sciences Bldg., Seattle, WA 98195*



### AUGUST 21 - 27

XXI INTERNATIONAL  
ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS

**Vienna, Austria**

*Contact: Interconvention, Friedrichstrabe  
7, Vienna, Austria, Tel: (+43-1-58800-106)  
FAX: (+43-1-5867260).*

### SEPTEMBER 21 - 25

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY FIRST  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Albuquerque, New Mexico**

*Contact: (301-897-9770).*

### OCTOBER 22 - 26

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON URBAN  
WILDLIFE

**Seattle - Bellevue, Washington.**

*Contact: Lowell Adams (301-596-3311).*

### NOVEMBER 3 - 6

RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
MEETING

**Flagstaff, Arizona**

*Contact: Patricia A. Hall, Local  
Chairperson, 436 E. David Dr.,  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
Tel: (602-774-0041).*



## NEVADA BIOLOGIST WINS 2 AWARDS

**ELISE VERNON SCHMIDT** was the recipient of both the Stephen R. Tulley Memorial Award and the James R. Koplin Travel Award in 1993. Elise is a native of Utah and current resident of Nevada. Her early birding experiences in the west instilled in her a strong interest in raptors. After she completed a bachelor's degree at Brigham Young University, she travelled with her husband and two children, residing in several states and teaching high school. She returned to graduate school at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where she is studying morphological and genetic variation in migratory raptors. In conjunction with her research she has spent several fall seasons helping to trap and band raptors in the west. She also has a strong interest in the local Prairie Falcon population and has spent her years since moving to Las Vegas monitoring breeding success of local birds.



### JOSEPH HICKEY

Professor Joe Hickey died on August 31, 1993, at the age of 86. Hickey was a retired chairman of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Wildlife Ecology Department and a noted ornithologist, researcher, and teacher. He was a UW faculty member from 1944 until his retirement and was a graduate assistant of renowned naturalist Aldo Leopold, taking over Leopold's UW post when Leopold died. In the early 1960's Hickey and his graduate students documented the disappearance of the peregrine falcon from eastern states, demonstrating how DDE, a breakdown of the pesticide DDT, weakened the falcons' eggshells. DDT was subsequently banned and the peregrine falcons successfully reintroduced. Among many of his other achievements, he helped found the Nature Conservancy in 1950. He will be missed, but his influence will be carried on through his many personal accomplishments and his former students.

-- Thomas H. Nicholls  
NC Director, RRF

## OBITUARIES

### EDWARD S. FREIENMUTH

It is with great sorrow that I must report the death of a friend and mentor, Ed Freienmuth. Ed was a longtime member of the Raptor Research Foundation's Stephen R. Tully Memorial Award Committee and was one of Steve's many friends.

Before I chaired the Tully Award Committee I knew Ed when I assumed his duties as Treasurer for the North American Falconers Association. He taught me all I know of accounting procedures, skills I continue to use daily in my profession. Besides being a falconer, raptor breeder, and CPA, Ed was a lawyer and college administrator at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. In 1969 he became a founder of the North American Peregrine Foundation, a non-profit organization for benefiting the Peregrine Falcon. The works Ed began will continue to help raptors, but his efforts and distinctive personality will be missed.

-- M. Alan Jenkins

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ATTENTION: ALL WINGSPAN SUBSCRIBERS:** The Post Office does not forward third class mail. If you have moved and wish to continue receiving *THE WINGSPAN*, please notify Jim Fitzpatrick, RRF Treasurer, of your address change. Jim's address is: 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, Minnesota 55033.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

● **DOUGLAS E. RUNDE** recently left Florida, where he coordinated population surveys for the State's Nongame Wildlife Program. Doug moved to the State of Washington to fill a newly created Research Wildlife Biologist position with Weyerhaeuser's Environmental Forestry Department. Doug will be conducting research, survey, and monitoring for wildlife on managed forest lands in western Washington. Doug can be reached by phone: (206-924-6580), FAX: (206-924-6970), or mail: 32901 Weyerhaeuser Way South, Federal Way, Washington 98003.

● **JIM BELTHOFF** has joined the faculty in the Dept. of Biology and the Raptor Research and Technical Assistance Center at Boise State University. His new address is: Dept. of Biology, Boise State University, Boise, ID 83725. Phone: (208-385-4033), FAX (208-385-3779), (E-mail tbergin@ksuvm.ksu.edu).

● **JEFFREY L. LINCER** signed on with Sweetwater Environmental Biologists Inc. in August 1993. He can now be reached at 3545 Camino del Rio South, Suite D, San Diego, California 92108: phone: (619-284-4165), FAX: (619-284-4216).

● **JOHN E. COOPER** moved to Rwanda in October 1993 to take up the post of Director of the Volcano Veterinary Centre (VVC) in the Parc National des Volcans. He and his wife, Margaret E. Cooper, LLB, will retain academic links with Sokoine University in Tanzania and the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent, UK. His new address will be VVC, B.P., 105, Ruhengeri, Rwanda.

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

MEXICAN SPOTTED OWL research assistants needed for study in central New Mexico. Salary will be \$500-800/month depending on experience. Four assistants are needed from early May - July, 1994. Work will include surveying for, trapping and banding Spotted Owls. At least two of these positions require previous banding experience with Spotted Owls. One additional assistant is needed from early May - 31 November 1994 and will assist with a radio-telemetry study. Radio-telemetry experience is desirable for this position. All research will be conducted in

remote and rugged area of New Mexico. Applicants must be in good physical condition, and must be willing to work at night and live in a tent. Applicants must provide their own camping equipment, and a backpack is necessary for the 6-month position and desirable for the 3-month positions. Please send a letter, resume and names and numbers of 3 references to Dr. Peter Stacey, EECB - University of Nevada-Reno, 1000 Valley Road, Reno, NV 89512.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED (10-15), mid-May to late Aug. for a study of Mexican Spotted Owl habitat use in the Canyonlands of southern Utah. Study areas include Zion, Capitol Reef and Canyonlands National Parks and adjacent Forest Service/BLM sites. Experience needed: orienteering skills, wilderness travel, rock climbing, 4X4 use, and data collection. Previous experience with Spotted Owls would be a real advantage! Salary \$800-\$1500/month depending on the project and your experience. Send resume and/or contact David and Jocelyn Willey, National Biological Survey, Colorado Plateau Research Station, Northern Arizona University, Box 5614, Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5614 (602-779-0598) or (602-556-7462).

RAPTOR RESEARCH INTERNSHIP available at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in eastern Pennsylvania. Experience with raptor identification desired. Skills in bird identification, public education and research techniques also helpful. Position begins 15 August and continues through 15 December. Housing and \$350 per month provided as well as unique opportunity to experience a world-renowned migration. To apply send cover letter, resume, and two letters of reference to Keith Bildstein or Laurie Goodrich, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, R.D. 2, Kempton, PA 19529 prior to 30 May 1994.

WILDLIFE BIOLOGICAL TECHNICIANS (GS-5) needed to assist with radiotelemetry study of Mexican Spotted Owls in Arizona. Field assistants must be in good physical condition, possess orienteering skills, and be self-motivated. Work may involve frequent flights in small aircraft, hiking and/or snowshoeing in rough terrain, operation of ATVs and snowmobiles, and travel away from home (including camping). Probable starting dates approximately 15 May and 1 September 1994. Experience with radiotelemetry, capture and handling of raptors, and operation of off-road vehicles desirable. Send resume with cover letter to Joe Ganey, Rocky Mountain Station, 2500 S. Pine Knoll, Flagstaff, AZ 86001.



RESEARCH ASSISTANTS (2-4) needed from mid-May - late August 1994 for study of habitat use and demography of northern Goshawks in California. Training, housing, transportation and approx. \$500/month provided. Send letter of interest, resume and names/phone numbers of 3 references by 30 March 1994 to *Brian Woodbridge, USDA Forest Service, Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097 (916-842-6131).*

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS (1-2) needed from mid-April - late August 1994 to assist with long-term study of site fidelity and demography of Swainson's hawks in northern California. Experience with raptor identification and orientation with map/compass are desirable but not required. Training, housing, transportation and approx. \$500/month provided. Send letter of interest, resume and names/numbers of 3 references by 30 March 1994 to *Brian Woodbridge, USDA Forest Service, Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097 (916-842-6131).*

FIELD RESEARCH ASSISTANT required for ongoing study of the reproductive ecology of Northern Harriers at Tantramar Marsh, southeastern New Brunswick, Canada (May - August 1994). Training and equipment provided, but assistant must be prepared to work alone (ca. 5 h/d). Very affordable housing arranged and a monthly stipend of \$1000 CAN. Must have own vehicle. Send letter of interest, CV, and names and phone numbers of 2 references to *Bruce MacWhirter, Dept. of Zoology, Ohio State University, 1735 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210-1293.*

VOLUNTEER NEEDED to work on Northern Goshawk study in eastern Oregon, May 15 - July 31. Housing provided. Possible stipend. Contact: *Karen Haines, (503-575-2235).*

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

**THE EASTERN SCREECH OWL** by Frederick R. Gehlbach will be available this year from Texas A & M University Press. The book summarizes Gehlbach's 25-year studies of the ecology of suburban and rural screech owls in Central Texas. It includes information on population ecology, genetics, and life history. To order, call (1-800-826-8911) or write *Texas A&M University Press, Drawer C, College Station, Texas 77843-4354.*

**CITY PEREGRINES**-a 10-year saga of New York City falcons by Saul Frank is now available from Hancock House Publishers. The book recounts the personal experiences of Saul Frank with peregrine falcons in the New York City Area. The book can be purchased for \$29.95 from *Hancock House Publishers, 1431 Harrison Avenue, Box 959, Blaine, WA 98231-0959.*

**THE HANDBOOK OF AUSTRALIAN, NEW ZEALAND AND ANTARCTIC BIRDS, VOLUME 2 (BIRDS OF PREY TO PRATINCOLES)** is now available from *Oxford University Press, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016.* The comprehensive synthesis of knowledge about birds from the area is edited by S. Marchant and P.J. Higgins. It includes 900 pages,

70 color and 150 b&w plates. Cost is \$295 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.

## CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED

BINOCULARS AND FIELD GUIDES NEEDED to assist in research and educational programs that have great need and very low funds. The Mexico Migration Project has received sufficient donations. The RRF Education Committee is now expanding the binocular/field guide donation program. Projects set to receive donations include research programs in Latin America and the former Soviet Union. Please consider donating them to this very worthwhile program. Also, the Education Committee is accepting nominations for worthy organizations to be beneficiaries of donations. Contact: *Nancy Read, Education Committee Chair, PO Box 714, Los Alamos, CA 93440-0714; (805-344-2428) or (805-734-8232 ext. 5-8399). Please note new address/phone.*

## REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

NORTHERN HAWK OWL INFORMATION is needed for the *Birds of North America* review of this species. Surprisingly few data exist in the published form, other than scattered records dealing with the first sighting for an area, state or province. Any information on behavior, food, breeding, movements, measurements, concentrations of birds, etc., would be most valuable, and fully acknowledged in the final account. *Patricia and Dr. James R. Duncan, Box 201, Craven, KS SOG OWO, Canada (306-731-2600); FAX: (306-787-2400).*

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS: PRINTED AND AUDIO/VISUAL. The RRF Education Committee is compiling a bibliography of printed educational materials on raptors. For audio-visual materials, we need the title, author/producer, production date, a brief summary (50 words or less), type of media, loan/rent/sale policies and prices, and contact name and address. For printed materials, send samples or a complete description (i.e. species, region, and topics). Contact *Nancy Read, Education Committee Chair, PO Box 714, Los Alamos, CA 93440-0714; (805-344-2428) or (805-734-8232 ext. 5-8399). Please note new address/phone.*

ATTENTION VENDORS: *The Wingspan* is interested in providing a list of sources of equipment. If you know of a product that would be useful to raptor researchers (e.g., traps, markers, telemetry equipment, etc.) please send a description and an address to *Karen Steenhof, RRTAC-NBS, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705.*

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**RECENT THESES ON RAPTORS**

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- REGULATION OF BALD EAGLE (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) POPULATIONS IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN: AN ECOLOGICAL AND TOXICOLOGICAL APPROACH. *William W. Bowerman IV*, Ph.D. Dissertation, Michigan State University.
- DIET AND HABITAT USE OF NESTING PRAIRIE FALCONS (*Falco mexicanus*) IN AN AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA. *Laurie Emily Hunt*. M.S. Thesis. University of Alberta, Edmonton.
- STUDIES OF FERRUGINOUS HAWK BIOLOGY. *Daniel N. Gossett*. M.S. Thesis. Boise State University.

**WINGSPAN CONTRIBUTIONS**

The *Wingspan* editorial staff welcomes contributions from RRF members and others interested in raptor biology and management. Announcements of job openings, grants, meetings, and available publications as well as news of members and requests for information should be sent or faxed to Karen Steenhof, Editor, RRTAC, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705 (FAX 208-384-3493). The deadline for the next newsletter will be 5 August 1994. If you intend to submit more than a paragraph, please notify the editor by 15 July so that space can be reserved.

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